

Rossini 4 TE

Speaking of sampling...

The Overture to *William Tell* has become one of the most well-known in classical music, despite the rarity of the opera's performance. Dmitri Shostakovich "sampled" the overture in his Symphony No. 15. Here is a small selection of the other ways in which the Overture has been borrowed:

- Theme for the television series *The Lone Ranger*
- Commercials, including one for Ivory soap
- Cartoons, including *The Flintstones*, *Yankee Doodle Daffy* and the 1935 Mickey Mouse classic, *The Band Concert*
- Dramatic music for Stanley Kubrick's film *A Clockwork Orange*

The Overture can be divided into a four-part structure:

- Prelude
- "Storm," in which the instruments play *tutti* for the first time
- "Call to the dairy cows" (*Ranz des vaches*), featuring an English horn solo
- Finale

The Finale is the best-known of these; the trumpets lead its dramatic fanfare and are quickly joined by the rest of the brass.

The student worksheet provides a review of quarters, eighths, and sixteenths. If your students are still developing familiarity with these, use whatever symbols your students may be familiar with for depicting quarter notes (straight lines, apples, etc.)

- Following the fanfare, have students beat the quarter notes on their legs for 16 measures.
- Divide the class in 2; have half continue beating quarter notes, while the other half claps on the eighth notes as we listen again.
- Take volunteers from each group to snap continual sixteenth notes during the third listening.

Can they determine if the eighth notes or sixteenth notes are falling on the strong beats or the weak beats?

If the students are experienced enough, work as a class to write out the rhythms of the first eight measures on the board.

